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OFFICE OF
COAL DEVELOPING
AND MARKETING

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Coal Facts

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Did You Know?

*Illinois Department of Commerce
and Community Affairs*

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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COAL IN ILLINOIS



- Coal was first discovered in Illinois more than 300 years ago.
- Mining began in Illinois almost 200 years ago.
- Over 47 million tons of Illinois coal are mined annually.
- Coal underlies 37,000 square miles of Illinois — about 65 percent of the state's surface.
- Most of the coal is bituminous with high energy values; between 10,000 and 14,000 Btu/lb.
- Illinois' coal reserves contain more Btu's than the oil reserves of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.
- Recoverable coal reserves in Illinois (30 billion tons) account for almost one-eighth of the total U.S. coal reserves and one-quarter of the nation's bituminous coal reserves.
- Illinois ranks sixth among coal producing states.

CLEAN AIR ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1990

- The mandates contained in the Amendments have triggered wide-spread fuel switching from Illinois' high-sulfur coal to low-sulfur western coal.
- One-fifth of Illinois' 1990 coal production and sales were lost by the end of 1996 and as much as one-third could be lost by the year 2000.
- As a result, coal mine employment in Illinois could drop from 10,129 miners in 1990, to less than 5,000 miners by the year 2000, with 3 to 5 non-mine jobs lost for each mine job lost.



CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGIES

- Illinois' commitment of \$138 million towards Clean Coal Technologies (CCTs) has attracted \$200 million in federal funds and \$462 million in private and public cost-sharing, supporting 18 clean coal projects within the state.
- More than 3 million tons of Illinois coal production worth \$75 million has been sustained annually as a result of this commitment to CCTs.

- Clean coal technologies have improved the efficiency of coal-fired plants by 21 percent, consequently reducing CO₂ emissions by 17 to 27 percent.

BENEFITS OF SCRUBBING ILLINOIS COAL



- Scrubbing reduces the emissions of SO₂ by 90 to 95 percent and can achieve a greater reduction in emissions of other hazardous air pollutants than fuel switching.
- Burning unscrubbed western coal produces more SO₂ emissions than burning scrubbed Illinois coal.

COAL MARKETS

- Over \$1 billion of Illinois coal was sold in 1996.
- Nearly 90 percent of Illinois coal mined is purchased by the electric utility industry.
- About 70 percent of Illinois coal is sold to out-of-state utilities.

- The top 7 utility users of Illinois coal in 1996 were: PSI Energy, Illinois Power, Tennessee Valley Authority, Central Illinois Public Service, Northern Indiana Public Service, Tampa Electric and Union Electric. All purchased more than 2 million tons of Illinois coal in 1996.
- States in addition to Illinois that use large quantities of our coal include Indiana, Florida, Missouri and Tennessee.
- Decatur-based Illinois Power burns more Illinois coal than any other Illinois user.
- International markets for Illinois coal are expanding. Annual Illinois coal exports could increase by 3 to 5 million tons within the next decade.

WORK FORCE

- Illinois coal is mined in 17 counties.
- In 1996, 27 Illinois mines employed about 5,000 miners, and generated roughly 25,000 spin-off jobs.
- Coal mining accounts for as much as 12 percent of employment in individual counties.



- The typical coal miner earns \$41,500 per year.
- In 1981, Illinois recorded the first fatality-free year in mining history.
- 5,000 Illinois miners produced as much coal in 1996 as 7,900 miners produced in 1962, 28,500 miners produced in 1949, and 74,000 miners produced in 1927.

